



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**February 25, 2014**

**Motion 14083**

**Proposed No. 2014-0077.1**

**Sponsors Dunn, Lambert, Gossett, von  
Reichbauer, Phillips and Hague**

1           A MOTION calling on the King County executive to  
2           support efforts to combat human trafficking and the  
3           commercial sexual exploitation of children through the  
4           development and placement of human trafficking outreach  
5           information in certain locations across King County  
6           including county facilities.

7           WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which people  
8           profit from the control and exploitation of others, and

9           WHEREAS, as defined under federal law, victims of human trafficking include  
10          children involved in commercial sex trade, adults age eighteen or over who are coerced  
11          or deceived into commercial sex acts and anyone forced into different forms of "labor or  
12          services," such as domestic workers held in a home or farm workers forced to labor  
13          against their will, and

14          WHEREAS, human trafficking is considered to be one of the fastest growing  
15          criminal industries in the world, and

16          WHEREAS, human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of  
17          children are serious crime problems worldwide, in Washington state and in King County,  
18          and

19 WHEREAS, between three hundred and five hundred children will be bought and  
20 sold in King County this year, and

21 WHEREAS, the average age of entry into commercial sexual exploitation in the  
22 United States is thirteen years old, and

23 WHEREAS, children as young as eleven years old who have been commercially  
24 sexually exploited have been found in King County, and

25 WHEREAS, over ninety-five percent of labor and sex trafficking victims  
26 experience physical and sexual violence, and

27 WHEREAS, human traffickers lure and ensnare individuals into labor trafficking  
28 and sex trafficking situations using methods of control such as force, fraud or coercion,  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, the state of Washington has been described as a focal point for the  
31 recruitment, transportation and sale of people for labor, due in part to its abundance of  
32 ports, proximity to an international border, vast rural areas and dependency on  
33 agricultural workers, and

34 WHEREAS, Washington was the first state to criminalize human trafficking, in  
35 2003, and

36 WHEREAS, the 2008 Report of the Washington Task Force against the  
37 Trafficking of Human Persons recommended among its urgent priorities the need to:  
38 educate Washington communities about human trafficking; provide support to implement  
39 community-driven antitrafficking strategies, including primary prevention efforts; and  
40 help victims escape their situations by making one-on-one contact with people who may  
41 be in trafficking situations, and

42 WHEREAS, public information about human trafficking can educate the public  
43 about human trafficking and inform victims about resources available to them,  
44 simultaneously addressing the needs of individual victims and the educational priorities  
45 of the Washington state Task Force on Trafficking, and

46 WHEREAS, human trafficking is a clandestine crime that thrives on secrecy and  
47 on the social and physical isolation of its victims, making identification of victims,  
48 traffickers and their networks extremely challenging, and

49 WHEREAS, one significant tool for bringing human trafficking into the open is  
50 utilizing the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline that connects callers  
51 to resources, including: law enforcement, services and information about the crime of  
52 human trafficking, and

53 WHEREAS, while human trafficking locations and venues might differ from state  
54 to state, there are common venues where trafficking readily occurs, and

55 WHEREAS, based on these patterns, it is recommended that information and  
56 hotline phone numbers should be posted in or at: truck stops, bus stations, train stations,  
57 airports, rest stops, hotels, motels, clubs, bars, farms, hospitals, clinics, jails, police  
58 stations and shelters in an effort to target locations where trafficking victims may see the  
59 information, and

60 WHEREAS, for victims of human trafficking, the public posting of information  
61 and hotline phone numbers in locations where the information may be seen is critical, as  
62 they might not have access to the Internet or to other forms of community based outreach  
63 and awareness programs, and

64 WHEREAS, for community members, information and calls to the hotline often  
65 generate future tips and a better understanding of the red-flag indicators of human  
66 trafficking, and

67 WHEREAS, posting information on human trafficking and hotline phone  
68 numbers in high visibility locations, increases awareness and increases the chances that  
69 human trafficking will be reported, victims will identified and access services and  
70 traffickers will be prosecuted;

71 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

72 A. The executive is requested to develop and implement a public outreach and  
73 information postings program to increase public awareness of human trafficking and  
74 commercial sexual exploitation of children using placement of human trafficking public  
75 awareness materials in, but not limited to, county facilities such as the jail, public health  
76 clinics, transit centers, courthouses, hospitals, shelters and other locations where  
77 trafficked individuals and the public may see the information.

78 B. The executive is requested to develop the materials and determine placement  
79 of the materials in collaboration with public health-Seattle and King County, the transit  
80 division, the department of community and human services, the prosecutor's office, the  
81 sheriff's office, superior court, Washington Anti-Trafficking Response Network and  
82 council staff.

83 C. The executive is requested to explore partnership opportunities with entities  
84 external to King County government for posting of human trafficking public awareness  
85 materials in their facilities and locations, including, but not limited to, hospitals,  
86 community health clinics, shelters, community service organizations and other

87 organizations with locations where trafficked individuals and the public may see the  
88 information.

89 D. The information on the human trafficking public information materials should  
90 include clearly displayed contact information for an existing national anti-human  
91 trafficking or exploited children organization, such as the National Human Trafficking  
92 Resource Center, and include the telephone number and email address on the public  
93 awareness materials.

94 E. The human trafficking public information materials developed by the  
95 executive shall be accessible in multiple languages based on input from Washington  
96 Anti-Trafficking Response Network.

97 F. January 11 is National Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Day. The public  
98 awareness campaign should be in place by January 11, 2015.

99 G. The executive is requested to transmit to the council by September 18, 2014, a  
100 report on the implementation of this public awareness strategy, in the form of a paper  
101 original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the council, who shall retain the original  
102 and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers.

103 H. The report on the implementation of the human trafficking public awareness  
104 strategy shall include:

105 1. A list of the King County facilities that will display the materials and their  
106 locations throughout King County;

107 2. A list of partners entities that have agreed to display the materials and their  
108 locations throughout King County and an outline of the memoranda of agreement or  
109 other documentation necessary to enable the postings to occur;

110           3. Identification of an ongoing process to invite future partner entities to display  
111 the human trafficking public information materials; and

112           4. A plan for ensuring that the posting of human trafficking public information  
113 materials occurs on an ongoing basis.

114

Motion 14083 was introduced on 2/10/2014 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 2/24/2014, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,  
Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski and Mr.  
Upthegrove  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None